

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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R 062222Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC, MILI, TU

SUBJECT: MERSIN ELEVEN

REF: (A) ADANA 088; (B) ANKARA 1458; (C) ANKARA 1473

1. TAPED INTERVIEW MENTIONED PARA 5 REF A WAS AIRED ON CBS RADIO AND TV EVENING NEWS BROADCASTS MAY 3. CBS REPORT INCLUDED PENTAGON STATEMENT THAT US AIR POLICE PRESENT DURING AIRMEN'S INITIAL INTERROGATION BY TURKISH POLICE SAY THEY DECIDED NOT TO INTERVENE LEST THEY BE BANISHED FROM INTERROGATION, THUS MAKING THINGS WORSE FOR AIRMEN. ACCORDING REPORT, PENTAGON SAID AIR POLICE HAVE BEEN REPRIMANDED.

2. FOLLOWING EXCHANGE OCCURRED AT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S (PAUL HARE) NOON BRIEFING MAY 6:

Q. IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT INVOLVED AT ALL IN THIS CASE OF THE AMERICAN SERVICEMEN IN TURKEY ON NARCOTICS CHARGES?

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A. THAT HAPPENED A COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO, AS I UNDERSTAND.
AND OUR INVOLVEMENT--I AM TRYING TO RECOLLECT--AT THE TIME
WHEN OUR AMBASSADOR IN ANKARA HEARD ABOUT THE ALLEGED
MISTREATMENT WHICH THE SERVICEMEN SAID THEY HAD RECEIVED
FROM THE TURKISH POLICE, HE DID GO INTO THE FOREIGN
MINISTRY AND ASKED THEM TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER. AND IT

IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT SAID
THEY WOULD INVESTIGATE AND WOULD BE BACK TO THE
AMBASSADOR. BUT THAT IS WHERE IT STANDS AS FAR AS I'M
AWARE.

3. HAS TURKISH GOVERNMENT GIVEN EMBASSY REPORT ON ITS
INVESTIGATION INTO MISTREATMENT ALLEGATIONS REQUESTED
IN EMBASSY'S AIDE MEMOIRE OF FEBRUARY 27 (REF C)? RUSH

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